WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1   1.   A method for pre-trusting applications for a firewall application, the

2   method comprising:

3   reading an order for an information handling system;

4   installing a software application onto the information handling system;

5   adding an identifier for the software application to a list of trusted

6   applications;

7   installing the firewall application onto the information handling system; and

8   accessing the list of trusted applications to automatically identify to the

9   firewall application that the software application is a trusted

10   application.

1   2.   The method of claim 1 wherein:

2   the list of trusted applications is generated within a manufacturing facility.

1   3.   The method of claim 2 further comprising:

2   generating a check sum for the software application; and,

3   adding the check sum to the list of trusted applications.

1   4.   The method of claim 3 further wherein:

2   the check sum corresponds to an MD5 signature.

3   5.   The method of claim 1 wherein:

4   the list of trusted applications is generated by the firewall application based

5   upon a record of software that is installed on the information handling

6   system in a manufacturing facility.

1   6.   The method of claim 5 further comprising:

2   generating a check sum for the software application; and,

3   adding the check sum to the list of trusted applications.

1   7.   The method of claim 6 further wherein:

2   the check sum corresponds to an MD5 signature.

1   8.   An apparatus for pre-trusting applications for a firewall application, the

2   method comprising:

3   means for reading an order for an information handling system;

4   means for installing a software application onto the information handling

5   system;

6   means for adding an identifier for the software application to a list of trusted

7   applications;

8   means for installing the firewall application onto the information handling

9   system; and

10   means for accessing the list of trusted applications to automatically identify to

11   the firewall application that the software application is a trusted

12   application.

1   9.   The apparatus of claim 8 wherein:

2   the list of trusted applications is generated within a manufacturing facility.

1   10.   The apparatus of claim 9 further comprising:

2   means for generating a check sum for the software application; and,

3   means for adding the check sum to the list of trusted applications.

1   11.   The apparatus of claim 10 further wherein: __

2   the check sum corresponds to an MD5 signature.

3   12.   The apparatus of claim 8 wherein:

4   the list of trusted applications is generated by the firewall application based

5   upon a record of software that is installed on the information handling

6   system in a manufacturing facility.

1   13.   The apparatus of claim 12 further comprising:

2   means for generating a check sum for the software application; and,

3   means for adding the check sum to the list of trusted applications.

1   14.   The apparatus of claim 13 further wherein:

2   the check sum corresponds to an MD5 signature.

1   15.   An information handling system comprising:

2   a processor;

3   memory coupled to the processor;

4   a firewall application stored on the memory;

5   an approved application file stored on the memory, the approved application

6   file including a list of trusted applications, the firewall application

7   accessing the list of trusted applications to automatically identify a

8   software application as a trusted software application.

1   16.   The information handling system of claim 15 wherein:

2   the list of trusted applications is generated within a manufacturing facility.

1   17.   The information handling system of claim 15 wherein:

2   the list of trusted applications is generated by the firewall application based

3   upon a record of software that is installed on the information handling

4   system in a manufacturing facility.